GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:375
ANSWERED ON:03.02.2017
Tax Evasion by Rich Farmers
Selvam Shri V. Panneer

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports/complaints for alleging tax evasion by rich people in the garb agricultural income;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check such tax evasion;

(d) whether there is any proposal to tax agriculture income of rich farmers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (c): Detection of cases of tax evasion including the cases of evasion in the garb of agriculture income, is an on-going process. Such detection through searches, surveys, investigations/enquiries is followed by quasi-judicial process of assessment of total income and levy of taxes. Wherever applicable, penalties are levied and prosecution complaints are filed before criminal courts. The statutory processes are subject to appellate remedies. Since it is the total income which is brought to tax under provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961, separate details of tax evasion in the garb of agriculture income are not maintained.

(d) and (e) : There is no proposal for taxation of agricultural income at present.